

7 September 1956

EYES ONLY

25X1A

Washington

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[REDACTED] when I saw him last week made a point in connection with the Russian objections to the alleged incidents of July 4, 5 and 9 of which you should be aware.

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He said that as a purely personal opinion he considered it very questionable whether the kind of risks involved were justified by a pressing urgency in the need for the results produced. In other words, even admitting the apparently extraordinary product of your system, is it clear that adequate results cannot be obtained over a longer period of time using a system with fewer built-in factors for international friction? If so, even though the collection might be much more difficult and surely would be substantially slower, would not a less volatile approach be more in keeping with the current state of world tension?

In view of where Chip sits, this opinion will, I assume, be of interest to you. It is for this reason alone that I wrote it. My instinct is to disagree but I am in no position to formulate an informed appraisal.

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Distribution:

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SECRET